

STUDIES ON IDIOCERINAE LEAFHOPPERS: III. ON SINGH-PRUTHI'S  
INDIAN SPECIES OF IDIOCERUS  
(HOMOPTERA, CICADELLIDAE)

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Thanks to the courtesy of Mr. K. S. Pradhan, Superintending Zoologist, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, I was able to study paratypes of *Idiocerus bimaculatus* Singh-Pruthi and *I. confuscous* Singh-Pruthi. The study of the genitalia of both species indicates that they should be transferred to *Idioscopus* Baker.

In my paper (Maldonado: 1964) I redescribed *Idioscopus* and said "aedeagus elongate, curved, with four (two long and two short) apical filaments." In order to include *I. bimaculatus* this character is herein modified as follows: aedeagus with two or four preapical filaments.

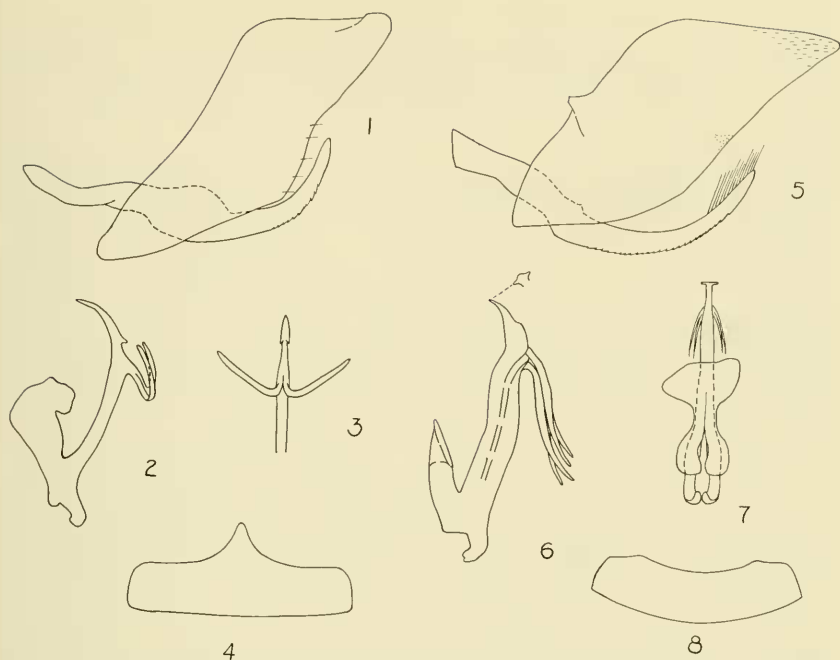
Examination of two specimens each of the type series of both above-mentioned species shows that Pruthi switched the drawings and consequently the descriptions of the genitalia. Text figure 117b of his paper (Singh-Pruthi, 1936) illustrates the genitalia of *I. confuscous* and not *I. bimaculatus* as stated, and text figure 118 illustrates the genitalia of *I. bimaculatus* and not of *I. confuscous*. The descriptions of the genitalia, on pages 103 and 104, correspond to the mixed-up drawings and thus have to be interchanged.

***Idioscopus bimaculatus* (Singh-Pruthi) n. comb.**

*Idiocerus bimaculatus* Singh-Pruthi 1936: 102.

Singh-Pruthi's description follows: "Pale yellow, yellow or pale brown (old specimens). Vertex short, about six times as broad as long in the middle, smooth, medially finely sulcate. Eyes small, chestnut brown. Face pale, convex, slightly longer than broad, frons fairly raised, clypeus large, broader in the apical region; lorae conspicuous; genae comparatively narrow. Ocelli shining and conspicuous; tip of the proboscis marked with black. Pronotum three times the length of the vertex, smooth, without any markings; the anterior and posterior margins slightly convex and concave respectively. Scutellum almost as long as the pronotum, transversely deeply impressed in middle, with a large black round marking near each basal angle. Tegmina much longer than the body in both sexes, transparent except in the region of the clavus where they are more deeply coloured and opaque; veins distinct but inconspicuous, only three apical and one ante-apical cells. Wings transparent, whitish, nervures distinct. Posterior tibiae thickly spinulose; all tarsi black."

Male genitalia as in figures 1 to 4; aedeagus with one pair of stiff abruptly bent cephalad preapical filaments. Drawn from specimen No.



*Idioscopus bimaculatus* (Singh-Pruthi) male. 1, style and pygofer, lateral view; 2, aedeagus, lateral view; 3, tip of aedeagus, caudal view; 4, valve. *Idioscopus confuscus* (Singh-Pruthi), male, 5, style and pygofer, lateral view; 6, aedeagus, lateral view; 7, aedeagus, cephalad view; 8, valve.

5527/H7 6,000 ft., Almora District, Kumaon, U. P., May 1930, H. S. Pruthi collector.

In my key (1964) to other Indian species of *Idioscopus* this species runs to *I. scutellatus*. These can be separated as follows:

Aedeagus with two preapical filaments, style with lower margin serrate ..... **I. bimaculatus** (Singh-Pruthi)

Aedeagus with four preapical filaments, style with lower margin smooth ..... **I. scutellatus** (Distant)

***Idioscopus confuscus* (Singh-Pruthi) n. comb.**

*Idiocerus confuscus* Pruthi 1936: 104.

Singh-Pruthi's description follows: "Vertex short, about eight times as broad as long in middle, medially deeply sulcate at base, anteriorly broadly rounded, ochraceous, with a conspicuous minute black dot near each eye, the two dots connected by an irregular dark grey stripe in some specimens. Eyes small, dark grey. Face ochraceous, with brownish patches in the lateral regions of frons. Ocelli colourless,

rather inconspicuous. Pronotum dark ochraceous, diffused with piceous markings near eyes, about three times as long as vertex. Scutellum about as long as pronotum, ochraceous, with a large angular dark brown or piceous spot near each basal angle. Tegmina long, much longer than the body in both sexes, semitransparent, castaneous; veins dark brown and conspicuous. Abdomen black on dorsal side in both sexes, ventrally brown in the female and marked with extensive black patches in the male. Legs brown, long; posterior tibiae thickly spinulose."

Male genitalia as in figures 5 to 8; aedeagus with four preapical filaments. Drawn from specimen No. 5530/H7, Almora District, Kumaon, U. P., May 1930, H. S. Pruthi collector.

In the above-mentioned key this species runs to *I. clypealis* because of the small dot near each eye. These can be separated as follows:

- With two minute dots high on the face, one near each eye  
 ----- **I. confuscous** (Singh-Pruthi)
- With two large black spots on the vertex .... **I. clypealis** (Lethierry)

Discussion: Of a total of 12 species previously assigned to *Idiocerus* and reported as found in India and the Philippine Islands I have transferred nine to other genera, namely, *Balocha astuta* (Melichar), *Idioscopus atkinsoni* (Lethierry), *I. clypealis* (Lethierry), *I. fasciolatus* (Distant), *I. incertus* (Baker), *I. niveosparsus* (Lethierry), *I. scutellatus* (Distant), *I. confuscous* (Singh-Pruthi), and *I. bimaculatus* (Singh-Pruthi). I have not been able to study specimens of the remaining three, namely, *Idiocerus unimaculatus* Melichar, *I. subopacus* Motschulsky, and *I. nagpurensis* Singh-Pruthi. Judging by the descriptions in Distant (1908:188) and Singh-Pruthi (1930:17) these species do not belong in *Idiocerus*, but probably in *Idioscopus*. I think that it will be safe to make the statement that the genus *Idiocerus*, as known for the Holarctic Region, does not occur in the Oriental Region.

#### REFERENCES

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